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On the whole, it may be said that the editor has been remarkably successful in his effort "to adapt this standard treatise to all the needs of modern practice, as well in the States which have a code procedure as in those having a distinct system of equity."

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THE ANNUAL ON THE LAW OF REAL PROPERTY. Edited by TILGHMAN E. and EMERSON E. BALLARD. Crawfordsville, Ind.: Ballard & Ballard, 1892.

In this volume the editors have reported in full over one hundred cases decided during the year by State courts of last resort, and they have added to these several elaborate annotations and discussions, an index to decisions construing local statutes and an epitome of cases not important enough to be reported in full. The book represents the annual crop of real property cases yielded by the American courts, the wheat being separated from the chaff, and the whole ground into a form well adopted for the lawyer's "domestic use." With this book in hand one can keep abreast of the development of the law by reading the reported cases, for the editors report all cases in full (1) which overrule other cases on material points; (2) which construe important statutes not hitherto construed; or (3) which make some new application of legal principles. If one has the further object of investigating a particular point, he has at hand the admirable "Epitome of Cases" which, as a new volume, will be published each year, is justly characterized by the editors as "a growing and living 'brief' on all of the subjects about which the courts have anything to say."

The plan of the book is, in our judgment, an admirable one, and the execution of the plan seems to be in all respects satisfactory. But the true test of such a book lies in the constant use of it, and we shall be in a better position to pronounce a worthy judgment when the second "Annual" makes its appearance than we are at present.

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IL DIRITTO COMUNE. Per O. W. HOLMES, JR. Translated (into Italian) by FRANCESCO LAMBERTENGHI. Sondrio: Tipografia A. Moro e. C., 1888.

This interesting volume has been sent to us but recently, although it was published, in limited edition, as

long ago as 1888. All admirers of Judge HOLMES' "Lectures on the Common Law" (that is to say, all *readers* of them), will be glad to learn that they have, by M. Lambertenghi's translation, been put within the reach of those who live in the very birthplace of the Civil Law. Not without the aid, we admit, of the more familiar Boston edition, we have examined a large part of the volume before us, particularly the fifth Lecture on "Bailment." The account of the celebrated Southcote's Case—*Caso di Southcote*—sounds strangely in the "soft Italian," and because of this we read with renewed interest of the later development of the doctrine of bailment and of Chief Justice PEMBERTON'S refusal "to follow the law of Lord COKE'S time to such extreme results"—"*di seguire fino a questo estremo il diritto del tempo di Lord Coke.*"

M. LAMBERTENGHI is to be commended for an undertaking that will materially assist Judge Holmes' work in attaining the world-wide reputation which it deserves.

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DIGEST OF INSURANCE CASES FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 1891. By JOHN A. FINCH. Indianapolis: The Rough Notes Company, 1892.

Mr. FINCH, of the Indianapolis Bar, prepares annually for the publisher of the insurance journal, entitled *Rough Notes*, a digest of the insurance cases reported during the year in any of the long list of law journals published in the English language. The volume before us represents his latest effort, and it will be welcomed by the profession as a most useful work—what the editor, in his preface, is pleased to call "an indispensable necessity." An examination reveals the usual number of tiresome and dreary decisions, which the editor must, of course, digest, together with the really useful and interesting cases. The Kentucky Superior Court (p. 72) has discovered that where the assured makes truthful answers, and the company's agent writes down false answers, the company cannot defend upon the ground of their falsity. The Supreme Court of Canada is to be congratulated on this decision: "Two marks ("), similar to those used for the word "ditto," placed under the word "no" in a column of answers, in an application for life in-